

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, also known as 22q13 Deletion Syndrome, is a rare genetic condition caused by a deletion or other structural change of the terminal end of chromosome 22 in the 22q13 region or a disease-causing mutation of the SHANK3 gene; and

WHEREAS, this microdeletion is rarely uncovered by typical genetic screening, therefore a fluorescence in situ hybridization, or FISH test, or whole exome sequencing (WES) is recommended to confirm the diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, individuals, parents and advocacy groups can increase awareness of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and its symptoms through scientific education opportunities and informational exchange; and

WHEREAS, although the range and severity of symptoms may vary, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is generally thought to be characterized by intellectual disability of varying degrees, delayed or absent speech, symptoms of autism spectrum disorder, low muscle tone, motor delays, and epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, it is important to raise awareness of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and promote education that will help inform citizens about this disease.

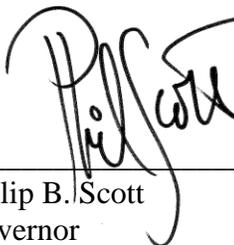
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2018 as

PHELAN-McDERMID SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of September, A.D. 2018


Philip B. Scott
Governor


Jaye Pershing Johnson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs